are invited from interested parties. The procedure has been reviewed it to ensure that undesirable elements do not get the licence. The licensee is required to deposit the security amount in advance and to certify that there is no criminal record against him/her, their associates or other close relatives connected with the business under the licence.

Excise Duty on Aerated Water

2233. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the rates of excise duty on aerated water during the year 1991—94;

(b) the effective rate of excise duty when Government had changed levy of excise duty to ad-valorem, in the Finance Bill, 1994;

(c) whether the rate of excise duty on aerated water was lowered in 1995;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government have changed levy of excise duty from ad valorem to tariff value with effect from November 1, 1995;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor;

(g) whether the amount of excise duty payable on tariff value basis, exceeds the amount of excise duty; and

(h) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) The effective rate of excise duty on aerated water during the years 1991—94 and for the year 1994-95 are given in Annexure. [*See* Appendix 175, Annexure No. 51 also vide Question No. 2222].

(c) Excise duty on aerated water was reduced in the Budget for 1995-96 from 50 per cent. to 40 per cent. ad-valorem.

(d) The effective rate of excise duty on aerated water at 40 per cent. ad-valorem was prescribed in the Budget for the year 1995-96, in accordance with the general policy of moving towards moderate rates of taxation.

(e) Levy of excise duty on aerated water continues to be on ad-valorem basis. Tariff values, however, have been fixed in lieu of assessable value under Section 4 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1994, for purposes of assessment to ad-valorem duty, with effect from November 1, 1995.

(f) Does not arise in view of (e) above.

(g) and (h) Tariff values have been fixed with effect from 1.11.1995 for certain categories of aerated waters for determining the excise duty payable thereon. For these categories of aerated waters, prior to 1.11.1995, excise duty was payable with reference to value determined under Section 4 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944. A change in the basis of assessment makes it difficult to indicate generally whether or not the amount of excise duty payable on the basis of tariff value exceeds the amount of duty payable on the basis of value under Section 4 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1994.

Schemes for Powerloom Workers

2234. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have urged the State Governments to implement the schemes for the welfare of powerloom workers and also to provide insurance cover.

(b) if so, the reaction of State Government in this regard; and

(c) the details of assistance Government propose to give to State Governments for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Union Government has urged the State Government to implement the Powerloom Workers Insurance Scheme.

(b) Eight State Governments have

started implementing the Powerloom Workers Insurance Scheme upto the year 1994-95. Other States are actively considering its adoption.

(c) Under this scheme an annual premium of Rs. 126/-, for an Insurance cover of Rs. 10,000/- is to be equally shared by the Central Government, State Government and the Powerloom Worker. Therefore, an assistance of Rs. 40/- per year per worker insured would be provided by the Union Government.

मध्य प्रदेश को प्रदान की गई निधियां

2235. **श्री दिलीप सिंह जूदेव:** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार मध्य प्रदेश के मामलों पर पुनर्विचार कर रही है, जिसे आठवें वित्त आयोग ने कम धनराशि का आवंटन किया था;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार राज्य के घाटे को पूरा करने के लिये धन को जारी करने का विचार रखती है, जिसमें पहले कमी कर दी गई थी;

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(घ) विशेष श्रेणी के अंतर्गत मध्य प्रदेश को क्या-क्या विशेष सुविधाएं दी जा रही हैं?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम० वी० चन्द्रशेखरमूर्ति): (क) जी नहीं। आठवें वित्त आयोग की अवधि 1984-85 से 1988-89 तक थी और भारत सरकार द्वारा इसका अधिनिर्णय अंतिम रूप से स्वीकार तथा कार्यान्वित किया गया था।

(ख) और (ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(घ) मध्य प्रदेश विशेष श्रेणी वाला राज्य नहीं है।

Arangement of Funds for Rehabilitation Plan for Durgapur Power Station of DVC

2236. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI MD. SALIM:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2026 given in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd August, 1995 and state:

(a) whether source of funding for rehabilitation of two fire damaged 2 × 75 MW units of Durgapur Thermal Power Station of DVC has been identified and finalised;

(b) if not, the steps being taken for arranging the required funds;

(c) the constraints, if any other than arrangement of funds; and

(d) the tentative zero date of rehabilitation project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) and (b) Against the latest estimated cost of Rs. 592.27 crores for the rehabilitation scheme of the two fire damaged 2×75 MW units of Durgapur Thermal Power Plant of Damodar Valley Corporation, KFW, Germany have indicated their willingness to extend a loan assistance of DM 107 million equivalent to Rs. 264 crores; in addition, M/s. ABB—ABL have also offered to arrange assistance of Rs. 65 crores through some financial insitutions. These assistances as well as the sources for balance amount have not been tied up/ finalised.

(c) and (d) The environmental clearance in regard to the proposed rehabilitation scheme has not been received. The tentative zero date for implementation of the rehabilitation scheme could be considered from the date of Government's approval, which can be processed after DVC has obtained environmental clearance and has finalised the source of funding.